

~~TOP SECRET TRINITY~~ VENONA

Reissue (T345)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No.: 1131

12 July 1943

To the Director.

SMITH [SMITH] [i] has passed on [the following] [a] information:

1. He has had a talk with MORRISON [b] [ii] (Deputy Chief of the Russian Section [OTDEL] of O.S.S.). The latter stated:

(a) At the War Department there is a group of officers known now under the name of "the Twelve Apostles". The latter consists mainly of officers of the Intelligence Division [OTDEL] (G2).

(b) SMITH has identified through MORISON only three of the members of this group: TRUMAN [B% SMITH], MACGUIRE, CLAYTON (all from G2).

(c) In this group there is being propagated the idea of war with the USSR

[24 groups unrecoverable]

MORRISON considers that preparation [PODGOTOVKA] for war with the USSR was recently begun; that the direct aim is to pave the way for the maintenance in the USA after the war of a large army, which in turn will permit the higher officers to keep their ranks, high rates of pay, etc.

(e) In MORISON's opinion this idea constitutes also one of the measures of the military clique in paving the way for the establishment of a military dictatorship in the country: "[1 group garbled] that friction within the ROOSEVELT Administration and between that Administration and Congress [5 groups unrecovered] in the conduct of the war and the post-war transition of power into the hands of the military".

2. Later SMITH had a talk (together with MORISON) with Stuart HAYDEN (an employee of the bureau for working out plans for the administration of liberated countries, a prominent CHICAGO correspondent). He also spoke of the present tendency towards a military dictatorship which is supported by a section of the big industrialists.

3. Herbert WOLLNER, [iii] an employee of the Department of Finance [iv] also spoke to SMITH on this same subject. He called this tendency "a striving for a dictatorship of the Fascist type".

4. At one of the universities a group of 81 army officers has completed training in Russian. It is intended for the formation of a General Staff special Cryptographic [c]

[69 groups unrecoverable]

[54 groups unrecovered]

No. 190

MOLIERE [MOL'ER] [v]

T.N.: [a] Inserted by translator

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- 2 -

- [b] The spelling of this name is inconsistent (it occurs sometimes with one and sometimes with two r's) throughout the text.
- [c] The following noun is feminine.

Comments:

- [i] SMIT: Leonard Emil MINS.
- [ii] John Alexander MORRISON.
- [iii] Herbert WOLLNER: Herbert J. WOLLNER was a consulting chemist in the Treasury Department in 1943.
- [iv] Presumably the Treasury Department.
- [v] Pavel Petrovich MIKHAILOV, an official (later Acting Head) of the Soviet Consulate-General in NEW YORK.

24 March 1966